UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/658,171	09/08/2003	Edward C. Greene	NVIDP032A/P000874	3348

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Zilka-Kotab, PC
P.O. BOX 721120
SAN JOSE, CA 95172-1120

EXAMINER
NGUYEN, PHU K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2671	

DATE MAILED: 03/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO 90C (Rev 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Response to Rule 312 Communication	10/658,171	GREENE ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Phu K. Nguyen	2673	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

1. ☒ The amendment filed on *30 August 2004* under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been:

 a) ☒ entered.

 b) ☐ entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention.

 c) ☐ disapproved because the amendment was filed after the payment of the issue fee.
 Any amendment filed after the date the issue fee is paid must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(1)
 and the required fee to withdraw the application from issue.

 d) ☐ disapproved. See explanation below.

 e) ☐ entered in part. See explanation below.

Applicant's comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance have been considered; however, Examiner does not agree with these comments. Specifically, Applicant's comment on claims 67-79 as "not include at least a portion of the excepts cited by the Examiner" is not correct because the portion including the allowable features in claims 67-79 is "A method for multiple-pass rendering in a plurality of pipelines using conservative occlusion culling, comprising: during a first pass in a first pipeline, passing objects from an input stream to a culling stage of the first pipeline for creating an occlusion image in a first depth buffer requiring a first amount of storage; and during a second pass in a second pipeline, sending the objects to a culling stage of the second pipeline for conservatively culling occluded objects utilizing the occlusion image, and passing to a renderer remaining objects, wherein the renderer requires a second depth buffer with a second amount of storage greater than the first amount of storage." Furthermore, Applicant's method and computer program product claims including the steps of the method and the objects of data structure are within the scopes of the statements cited in Noce of Allowance.

PHU K. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 2400